GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2594
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2002
SHORTAGE OF CORNEAS
CHANDRESH PATEL KORDIA

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of corneas needed for the operation of the eyes in the country;

(b) the number of corneas available in the country at present;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to meet this shortage;

(d) the reasons for the shortage thereof; and

(e) the number of corneas received in donation, State-wise since the year 2000 till date?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)
(a)&(b): About one lakh corneas are needed every year for the eye operations in the country. Against the requirement, about 20,000 corneas are being collected every year by various eye banks in the country.
(c): Annual Eye Donation Fortnight from 25th Augustto 8th September and Hospital Cornea Retrieval Programs arebeing organized to motivate the people for donating the eyes.
(d): The reasons for shortage of donated corneas are:

1. Inadequate number of functional eye banks

2. Low rate of donated eyes due to social reasons.

3. Need for collection of donated eyes within 6 hours of death.

(e): The State-wise details of corneas received in donation since 2000 is enclosed as annexure-I.
ANNEXURE-I

STATEWISE DETAILS OF EYE COLLECTION

S.No.	State/UT	2000	2001	2002 Provisional
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	1306	1575	123
2	ANDAMAN &NICOBAR			
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH			
4	ASSAM	0	12	4
5	BIHAR	17	21	18
6	CHANDIGARH	246	264	44
7	CHATTISGARH			
8	DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI		0	
9	DAMAN & DIU			
10	DELHI	1040	1220	81
11	GOA			
12	GUJARAT	6078	5076	415
13	HARYANA	168	145	18
14	HIMACHAL PRADESH			
15	JAMMU & KASHMIR			
16	JHARKHAND			
17	KARNATAKA	874	1029	126
18	KERALA	264	430	291
19	LAKSHWEEP			
20	MADHYA PRADESH	408	233	86
21	MAHARASHTRA	3628	3962	634
22	MANIPUR			
23	MEGHALAYA			

24	MIZORAM			
25	NAGALAND			
26	ORISSA	0	0	
27	PONDICHERRY	71	92	12
28	PUNJAB	209	280	71
29.	RAJASTHAN	218	190	112
30	SIKKIM			
31	TAMIL NADU	3359	4440	1186
32	TRIPURA			
33	UTTAR PRADESH	224	310	18
34	UTTARANCHAL			
35	WEST BENGAL	531	615	85
	TOTAL	18641	19894	3324